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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF STANDARDS
WASHINGTON

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Information Section
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# EQUIPMENT FOR TESTING AND ADJUSTING RAILROAD TRACK SCALES

For the routine test and adjustment of railroad track scales which receive ordinary service, the Bureau of Standards recommends as follows:

(1) That two short wheel base test cars of suitable design be used in making a test.

(2) That the weight of one car be equal to just twice that of the other.

(3) That the heavier car weigh from 80 000 to 100 000 pounds.

(4) That the wheel base of the test cars be not greater than seven feet, and preferably about five feet six inches.

If test cars are not available no attempt should be made to test a railroad track scale unless at least 20 000 pounds of test weights are available, as a smaller load will give results which are little or no indication of what the scale will do under practical weighing conditions; and, in general, a 20 000 pound test can only be regarded as an exigency test, the results of which cannot be accepted as conclusive.